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RATHER VAGUE DESPATCH

Says Vessels Can Now Sail on Newfoundland Trips.

But That Modus Vivendi Has Not Yet Been Renewed.

The Boston papers this morning print a despatch which reads very queerly. It says in substance that in view of the fact that the open season for the Newfoundland fisheries is beginning, the state department has determined to allow the Gloucester vessels to proceed to the fishing grounds and begin fishing. Continuing the despatch says:

"This is with the understanding that although the modus vivendi of last season has not yet been renewed, the state of the negotiations in London warrants the department in the opinion that it will be so renewed, even if in a modified form."

Just what the department means to convey is not made clear by the despatch. The departure of the Newfoundland herring fleet a few weeks hence is not governed by any permission from the state department, as the vessels go when in the judgment of their owners or skippers the proper time comes.

The despatch probably means to convey the impression that the modus vivendi will be received, or modified slightly, and that it will be all right for the American vessels to get ready and go as they did last year.

There are strong grounds for believing that the modus vivendi will be modified, and if this is so, and the modification of a nature suspected here, it would certainly be unwise to go to Newfoundland fitted as were certain of the vessels last season. It would seem that the despatch at best is very vague and uncertain and lacking in one or two important details.

Aug. 27.

BIG FARES.

Schs. Onato and Illinois Have Very Large Shack Trips.

Sch. Olga Has Fine Fare on Quick Georges Halibut Trip.

There are some large shack trips at this port this morning. Sch. Onato, Capt. J. Henry Larkin, arrived during the night from La Have bank, with a vessel load, 200,000 pounds of fresh fish, 125,000 pounds of which are cusk, the rest being cod, hake and haddock. Capt. Larkin has been bringing in some big fares, but this is his largest this season.

Sch. Illinois, Capt. John Lowrie, also arrived this morning from Le Have bank with a fine trip, 165,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly hake and cusk. This is Capt. Lowrie's first trip for some time, as he has been stopping ashore, and shows that he is still right in the game.

Sch. Olga, Capt. Alfred Johnson, is in port from a Georges halibuting trip with a nice fare, 65,000 pounds of fresh fish, 12,000 pounds of salt fish and 2000 pounds of halibut. As usual, he has been gone only a very short while.

Sch. Mildred V. Numan is at Boston this morning with a fine shack fare of 150,000 pounds of fresh fish, which amount must completely fill this little Cape Porpoise craft.

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French Trawlers Have Done Well

Two French trawlers, the Jeanette and the Facha sailed Wednesday from North Sydney, C. B., where they will fish for a week, and proceed direct to France. They have excellent fares. A lot of new trawlers are expected out next year.

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Halibut Sale.

The fare of sch. John Hays Hammond sold to the New England Fish Co. at 10 cents per pound for white and 7 cents per pound for gray.

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Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Onato, LaHave Bank, 200,000 lbs. fresh fish, 1000 lbs. halibut.
Sch. Illinois, Cape Shore, 160,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Olga, Georges, 65,000 lbs. fresh fish, 12,000 lbs. salt cod, 2000 lbs. halibut.
Sch. Ramona, via Boston, 33,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Ida S. Brooks, via Boston, 18,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. John Hays Hammond, Bacalieu Bank and Western Bank, 60,000 lbs. fresh cod, 25,000 lbs. salt cod, 30,000 lbs. halibut, 3000 lbs. fitched halibut.
Sch. Mary E. Silveria, via Boston.
Sch. Emily Sears, via Boston.
Sch. Henrietta G. Martin, via Boston.
Sloop Ignatius Enos, via Boston.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, via Boston.
Sch. Esther Gray, via Boston.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. John M. Keen, shore.
Sch. Manomet, shore.
Sch. Ralph L. Hall, seining.

Today's Fish Market.

Bank halibut, 10 cts. per lb. for white and 7 cts. for gray.
Market price large western cod to split, \$2.25 per cwt., medium do., \$1.55.
Large eastern cod, \$2.25, medium do., \$1.50.
Market price fresh large Rips cod, \$2.25 per cwt., medium do., \$1.55.
Market price, salt bank cod, \$4 per cwt. for large and \$3.25 for medium.
Market price salt Rips cod, \$1.12 1-2 cwt. for large, \$3.12 1-2 medium, \$2.50 for snappers and \$2 for haddock and \$1.50 for pollock.
Fresh round pollock, 80c per cwt.
Market price fresh hake, \$1.30 per cwt.
Large fresh mackerel, 20 1-2 cts. each.
Fresh medium mackerel 12 cts. each.
Market price fresh cusk, \$1.75 per cwt.
Dressed fresh pollock, 85 cts. per cwt.
Fresh whiting, 50c per bbl.
Large salt mackerel, plain, \$19.50 per bbl.; rimmed do., \$29 per bbl.
Salt medium mackerel, \$16 per bbl.
Salt small mackerel, \$12 per bbl.

Boston.

Sloop Two Sisters, 1500 cod, 500 pollock.
Sch. Frances Whalen, 30,000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 9000 hake.
Sch. Watauga, 44 swordfish.
Sch. Dorothy, 1000 haddock, 15,000 cod.
Sch. Genesta, 7000 haddock, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Mildred V. Numan, 4000 haddock, 20,000 cod, 60,000 hake, 20,000 cusk, 3 swordfish, 800 halibut.
Sch. Wesley W. Sennett, 37 swordfish.
Sloop Marion, 1000 cod, 4000 pollock.
Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, 30,000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 500 hake.
Sch. Metamora, 38,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 5000 hake.
Haddock, \$3 per cwt.; large cod, \$4.50 to \$5.25; market cod, \$2; hake, \$2.50; pollock, \$2.50; cusk, \$2.25; swordfish, 10 cts. per lb.

Aug. 28.

IN WASHINGTON.

Congressman Gardner Spending a Few Days in Capital City.

Congressman Gardner has been spending the past few days in Washington on official business, including matters pertaining to the Newfoundland herring fisheries question. He expects to spend a portion of October in New Brunswick.

Aug. 28.

AT BOSTON.

Sch. Alert Lands 20,000 Fresh Mixed Mackerel This Afternoon.

Sch. Alert, Capt. Almon D. Mallock, arrived at Boston this afternoon with 20,000 fresh mixed mackerel.

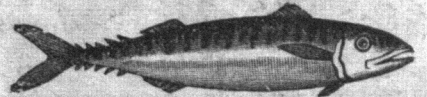
Aug. 28

LOOKS BRIGHT ON MACKEREL.

Good Hauls Made Yesterday Right on Middle Bank.

FRESH TRIPS TOO FROM RIPS.

Sch. Corsair Towed Here with a Big Fare.



Mackerel "prospects," that most elusive of phantoms, and still the most enticing to all Gloucester, are certainly "looking up."

The reason of this is that mackerel in fairly goodly quantity have showed on Middle Bank, with a sprinkling in Ipswich Bay, and the wise ones are now saying, "Look out for a good fall on the shore."

It would seem, too, that there is good ground for their remarks, for, following close on the news here of the arrival of sch. Hattie L. Trask at Boston yesterday from Middle Bank with a fine catch, came the arrival here last evening of sch. Corsair, Capt. Gourley Anderson, and certainly she was the fishiest looking craft that has entered this port for many a day. From well ahead of pull post to aft of the wheel box, she was simply a mass of mackerel. The deck was lost sight of beneath the shiny beauties, which were taken on Middle Bank yesterday.

It appears that sch. Corsair, with others of the fleet, went into Provincetown the day before to fill water. Yesterday morning they came out, and while the rest of the fleet turned the pace to the southward and eastward, Capt. Anderson decided to have a look across Middle Bank, and it was well he did. He saw signs of fish and also fell in with sch. Speculator, which had made a haul the day before when sch. Hattie L. Trask went to market.

"It looked good" to Capt. Anderson and he began to go over the ground. His diligence was soon rewarded, for in the afternoon a fine school was sighted and soon was inside the seine. Another came up and the twine was flung around that and both schools captured.

When they got done bailing in, the vessel's deck was full from knighthead to taffrail, a goodly load. In the vicinity was a big tow-boat, the Viking. She was waiting for a three master, but owing to the calm, she had not come along. Capt. Anderson hailed him and made a bargain with him to tow the Corsair to this port and the craft arrived here in the early evening, shooting in at the wharf of the Gloucester Fresh Fish Co.

Then there was a grand hustle to get the fish out, and Manager Livingston and his men worked hard, in consequence of which, when the steamer went to Boston this morning, she carried with her, all barrelled, 22,000 fish from the Corsair and they were on the market when the bell rung this morning. Besides these, the Corsair also had about 100 barrels which her crew had dressed on the way in and which will be landed here. It was a big afternoon's work, and if prices hold as quoted at the opening, will give the vessel a stock of about \$4000 for two casts of her seine. The Corsair will hustle right back today to the ground.

The news of the fish on Middle Bank has had the effect of stirring the mackerel blood here to the limit, and in consequence, two vessels, which had finished their season, are again fitting out. Capt. John McKinnon is fitting out sch. Saladin and Capt. Hebert C. Greenleaf is fitting out sch. Elizabeth Sisbee.

Besides the fish on Middle Bank, there are fish in Ipswich Bay, the bay being dotted with numberless pods of fish yesterday, little lots of but a barrel or so, but still a great sign of fish. One boat took 1600 mackerel there yesterday.

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LOOKS BRIGHT ON MACKEREL

The vessels down on the Rips, too, are evidently striking some fish, for three of the fleet reached T. wharf, Boston, yesterday afternoon with trips. Sch. Alert, Capt. Almon D. Malloch, had 16,000 mostly mediums; sch. Pontiac, Capt. Enos Nickerson, had 5000, mostly large; sch. A. M. Nicholson, Capt. Solomon Jacobs, had 15,000, mostly mediums, but with 4000 large among them.

Prices are ranging from 25 to 30 cents for large, 10 to 12 cents for mediums and 5 cents for small.

Aug. 28.

GOOD CHRISTENING.

Sch John Hays Hammond Home with Maiden Fare.

Capt. Lemuel E. Spinney and Crew Delighted with Craft.

The new sch. John Hays Hammond, Capt. Lemuel E. Spinney, arrived this morning from her maiden trip. Capt. Spinney has christened his new craft in good shape, as he brings a splendid fare of 30,000 pounds of halibut, 65,000 pounds of fresh cod and 20,000 pounds of salt cod.

Capt. Spinney is very much pleased with the Hammond and so are the crew. She proved herself a fine sailer, a clever worker and splendid sea boat, in short she acted just what she was built for, an up-to-date, model craft.

Capt. Spinney got his fare on the southern part of Baccalieu Bank, 150 miles east by north half north from St. John's, N. F. When they had been fishing about two days, John Wise, one of the crew, was taken ill, and it was necessary to leave the grounds and sail into Bay Bulls, N. F., to land him. In doing this and getting back to the bank, considerable time was lost, but the men buckled right down to fishing again and secured their good fare.

Capt. Spinney reports speaking sch. Monitor, and the fitted halibuting sch. S. P. Willard, the latter having 80,000 pounds of salt cod and 40,000 pounds of fitted halibut.

No field ice was met and but few icebergs were seen, none of these coming near enough to bother fishing operations to any great extent, although they were always menacing.

The vessel had very moderate winds all the way home, but made the passage to this port in a week.

A few days ago, when off Sable Island a little seal attracted the attention of all hands. It came swimming swiftly after the vessel and kept rubbing its nose against the side, chasing the vessel miles and continually nosing the side as if it wanted to be taken on board. At last some of the crew got a rope and flipped him on deck where he has been at home ever since, being tame and playful as a kitten.

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Pollock Striking In.

Pollock seem to be striking in again and are schooling in Ipswich Bay. The little steamers Bryda F. and Lydia F. got hauls there yesterday.

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Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Steamer Lydia F., Ipswich Bay, 6200 lbs. fresh pollock.

Steamer Bryda F., Ipswich Bay, 5000 lbs. fresh pollock.

Sch. Corsair, Middle Bank, 22,000 fresh mackerel, 100 bbls. salt mackerel.

Sch. Mildred V. Nunan, via Boston, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Good Luck, via Boston.

Sch. James and Esther, via Boston.

Sch. Two Sisters, via Boston.

Today's Fish Market.

Bank halibut, 10 cts. per lb. for white and 7 cts. for gray.

Market price large western cod to split, \$2.25 per cwt., medium do., \$1.55.

Large eastern cod, \$2.25, medium do., \$1.50.

Market price fresh large Rips cod, \$2.25 per cwt., medium do., \$1.55.

Market price, salt bank cod, \$4 per cwt. for large and \$3.25 for medium.

Market price salt Rips cod, \$1.12 1-2 cwt. for large, \$3.12 1-2 medium, \$2.50 for snappers and \$2 for haddock and \$1.50 for pollock.

Fresh round pollock, 80c per cwt.

Market price fresh hake, \$1.30 per cwt.

Large fresh mackerel, 20 1-2 cts. each.

Fresh medium mackerel 12 cts. each.

Market price fresh cusk, \$1.75 per cwt.

Dressed fresh pollock, 85 cts. per cwt.

Fresh whiting, 50c per bbl.

Large salt mackerel, plain, \$19.50 per bbl.; rimmed do., \$20 per bbl.

Salt medium mackerel, \$16 per bbl.

Salt small mackerel, \$12 per bbl.

Boston.

Sch. Speculator, 15,000 fresh medium mackerel.

Sch. Catherine D. Enos, 1800 haddock, 6000 cod, 12,000 pollock.

Sch. Hortense, 15,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 2000 hake, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Azorean, 2000 cod, 5000 pollock.

Sch. Eva Alvina, 1000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 pollock, 200 halibut.

Sch. Almeida, 40 swordfish.

Sch. A. M. Nicholson, 15,000 fresh mackerel.

Sch. Laura R. Silva, 8000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Jessie Costa, 2000 haddock, 20,000 cod.

Sch. Rose Dorothea.

Sch. Matchless, 36,000 cod.

Sch. Vesta, 4000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Mattakesett, 6000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 1500 hake.

Sch. Pontiac, 5000 fresh mackerel, 31 bbls. salt mackerel.

Sch. Flavilla, 12,000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 4000 hake, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Laura Enos, 2500 cod, 3000 pollock.

Sch. Alert, 16,000 fresh medium mackerel.

Sch. Hattie L. Trask, 13,000 fresh medium mackerel.

Sch. Pauline, 25,000 cod.

Sch. Maud F. Silva, 20,000 haddock, 7000 cod.

Sch. Mary A. Gleason, 3000 haddock, 19,000 cod.

Haddock, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$5.50; market cod, \$2; hake, \$1.50 to \$2.50; pollock, \$2 to \$3; swordfish, 10 1-2 cts. per lb.; fresh mackerel, 25 and 30 cts. each for large, 11 1-2 and 12 cts. each for medium and 5 cts. each for small.

Fishing Facts and Fancies.

Schs. Harvard and Hattie M. Graham were at Liverpool, N. S., Saturday and cleared.

Schs. Arcadia and W. E. Morrissey were at Louisburg, C. B., Saturday.

Aug. 29.

THE MACKEREL OUTLOOK.

The good news of recent big fares taken right at our very front door, on Middle Bank and Boston Bay, gives rise to the hope that we are in for a good fall's fishing. The added news of fish schooling on the Maine coast makes all the stronger the conviction that there is much good mackerel fishing to come in the next two months, perhaps the best of the year.

The signs are certainly propitious, and should it come to pass, as now seems probable, that there is a fine body of fish on the coast, it will mean the putting of the cream on what has thus far been a fairly successful season, as things have been going of late years.

A million dollar mackerel season is what the vessel owners, skippers and buyers are looking for, and it now seems that their hopes are in a fair way to be realized.

Aug. 29.

Bait.

Stanley & Jellison's trap at Mount Desert Ferry, Me., has 1000 barrels of large sized herring. Sch. Tecumseh baited here last Saturday.

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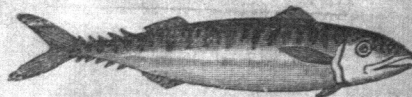
Aug. 29.

RIGHT UP IN BOSTON BAY.

Fleet of Dozen Seiners Struck Schools There Yesterday.

FOUR MADE VERY BIG HAULS.

Fish Also Schooling off Portland and Wood Island.



Mackerel have struck in on the Maine coast. A letter written at Portland yesterday by a very responsible gentleman and received here this morning by one of our largest concerns says that the little sch. Bernie and Bessie of that port, engaged in shore fishing came yesterday and reported that on the day before they counted from 30 to 40 schools of mackerel about seven miles off Wood Island. The men saw the fish and say that they were not blue backs, but mixed mackerel. A little steamer seined five barrels of mackerel off Portland on Monday and landed them at Portland. The fish were the same run as those being taken on the Rips, a few large and small and mostly mediums. On hearing the Wood Island news the steamer left for that place. Mackerel were reported schooling again off Wood Island yesterday. This is good news and augurs well for the probability of a fine fall seining season on the shore.

The fare of salt mackerel of sch. Effie M. Prior sold to Fred Bradley at \$19.50 per barrel for \$16 per barrel for mediums.

Aug. 29.

SEEM TO LIKE IT.

Boston Papers Endorse Sending Mr. Alexander to Newfoundland.

The Boston Advertiser yesterday in an editorial headed "Newfoundland's Fisheries Open," endorses the idea of sending Mr. Alexander and the revenue cutter Gresham to Bay of Islands, the following being extracts from the article:

"The idea of sending the fish commission expert in the revenue cutter Gresham is, seriously, an excellent move by our government, in view of the ticklish state of things on the Newfoundland fishing grounds.

"The safeguarding of the conditions through the precautionary sending of Mr. Alexander, indicate a common sense view of the principles involved and betoken a better adjustment of international understanding.

"It is better than either allowing the fishermen to go ahead, free from restraint and with no 'court of appeal' on the spot, or keeping them tied up at Gloucester, cherishing hard feelings and losing the season's profit. The government puts into execution a plan which appeals both to the fishermen's understanding and their desires.

"From the Newfoundland and British point of view, too, the plan should be commended. In doing as it proposes to do our government unmistakably proves its sincerity in its profession of desire to meet the situation fairly and to avoid the possibility of misunderstanding and resultant hard feelings on both sides."

The Boston Herald in an editorial headed, "A Fisherman's Teacher," says:

"Although the modus vivendi of last year has not been renewed, conditions of diplomatic negotiation are so amicable that our state department is to countenance our fishermen in proceeding to the grounds, where they are to have the benefit of coaching from Mr. Alexander of the fish commission, who has been ordered there to remain during the season and act as adviser to our fleet.

"This is good tactics, and admirable recognition of the value of expert judgment in time of friction. Mr. Alexander will 'tell it to the marines.'"